

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

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A method and apparatus for retransmitting data in a mobile communication system wherein a receiver determines whether an initial data block received from a transmitter has an error. Upon detecting an error from the initial data block, the receiver estimates a current channel state and determines a retransmission frequency and a power level of the initial data block according to the estimated current channel state. Thereafter, the receiver transmits a retransmission request message of the initial data block together with the determined retransmission frequency and the determined power level to the transmitter. The transmitter retransmits the initial data block as many times as the retransmission frequency at the requested power level. The receiver then determines whether the retransmitted data blocks have errors, and provides the retransmitted data blocks to an upper layer upon failure to detect errors from the retransmitted data blocks. Upon failure to detect errors, the receiver measures an average power level of the initial data block and each of the retransmitted data blocks, and selectively combines only the data blocks having an average power level higher than or equal to a predetermined reference power level. The receiver discards the data blocks having an average power level lower than the reference power level.